



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
PRISONS DIVISION
P. O. Box 41118 • Olympia, Washington 98504-1118

March 23, 2020

TO: All Incarcerated Individuals

FROM: Robert Herzog, Assistant Secretary *R. Herzog*
Julie Martin, Deputy Secretary *J. Martin*

RE: **Updated COVID-19 Information**

The purpose of this message is to provide you with continued steps the agency is taking to provide additional protections to you and your neighbors. Effective immediately, the food factories at AHCC and CRCC will be modifying their operations with increased health and sanitation procedures. This will include but is not limited to:

- All CI Workers will be screened by appropriate staff including temperature check prior to reporting to work.
- Additional Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) procedures and protocols will be instituted for all Food Manufacturing Workers. This includes increased hand washing and sanitizing every hour on the hour during factory operations (7am to 10pm). Gloves, facial hair guards, and hairnets will be provided to all workers each work day.

Continued evaluation and monitoring of mainline procedures while maintaining current social distancing requirements has provided critical feedback. This feedback is being utilized to make modifications to current mainline procedures. Meals at this time will continue to follow current hot/cold guidelines. You may however be asked to pick up your meals, and return to your cell to consume.

Your facility, if faced with extended mainline movements due to occupancy restrictions, may transition to in-cell feeding. We realize this further impacts your out-of-cell time and we hope to offset that with increased yard and recreation times by shortening your mainline times.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) states: "Currently there is no evidence of food or food packaging being associated with transmission of COVID-19. Unlike foodborne gastrointestinal (GI) viruses like norovirus and hepatitis A that often make people ill through contaminated food, SARS-CoV-2, which causes COVID-19, is a virus that causes respiratory illness. Foodborne exposure to this virus is not known to be a route of transmission."

The agency is purchasing large quantities of soap that will ensure store/commissary supplies are maintained for your access as needed. Please continue to practice good sanitation and hygiene practices at all times. Your patience and active participation to make the best of this situation is noticed and appreciated.

Cc: DOC COVID-19
Statewide Family Council

"Working Together for SAFE Communities"